

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A lid for use on a drinking container, wherein the lid is capable of being releasably, sealably engaged with a top end of the container, comprising:

a tear-back portion;

a raised protrusion extending from an upper surface of the tear-back portion, wherein at least two opposite side walls of the raised protrusion each includes a first latching member; and

a first recess formed in a top wall of the lid radially inward from the tear-back portion, wherein at least two opposing side walls of the recess each includes a second latching member;

wherein the tear-back portion is capable of being latched in an open position by inserting the raised protrusion within the first recess so that the first latching members are pushed past the second latching members to engage the second latching members.

2. The lid of claim 1, wherein the raised protrusion includes a flexural region.

3. The lid of claim 2, wherein the flexural region is provided by an indentation formed in the raised protrusion.

4. A lid for use on a drinking container, wherein the lid is capable of being releasably, sealably engaged with a top end of the container, comprising:

a top wall;

an annular mounting portion surrounding a periphery of the top wall for sealably engaging the beverage container, the mounting portion including a downwardly extending annular skirt;

a tear-back portion extending from a lower edge of the annular skirt to a hinge formed in a medial portion of the lid;

a raised protrusion extending from an upper surface of the tear-back portion, wherein at least two opposite side walls of the raised protrusion each includes a first latching member;

a first recess formed in the top wall radially inward from the hinge, wherein at least two opposing side walls of the recess each includes a second latching member;

wherein the tear-back portion may be displaced from the lid and pivoted about the hinge to form an opening in the lid, wherein the tear-back portion may be displaced until the raised protrusion is received within the first recess; and

wherein the first latching members are pushed past the second latching members to engage the second latching members to retain the tear-back portion of the lid in an open position.

5. The lid of claim 4, wherein the raised protrusion includes a flexural region.

6. The lid of claim 5, wherein the flexural region is provided by an indentation formed in the raised protrusion.

7. The lid of claim 4, further comprising:
an indented rim, wherein the top wall includes the indented rim radially inward of the mounting portion and formed around at least a portion of a circumference of the lid; and
at least one drain groove;
wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through the at least one drain groove through the formed opening into the container.

8. The lid of claim 4, further comprising:
at least one plurality of corrugations formed in the top wall spaced from at least one side of the raised protrusion;
an indented rim, wherein the top wall includes the indented rim radially inward of the mounting portion and formed around at least a portion of a circumference of the lid; and
at least one drain groove, wherein a first end of the drain groove is connected with the indented rim and a second end of the drain groove is connected with at least one corrugation of the at least one plurality of corrugations;

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through the drain groove through the at least one corrugation through the formed opening into the container.

9. The lid of claim 8, further comprising:

a second plurality of corrugations formed in the top wall, wherein the second plurality of corrugations is spaced from a side of the raised protrusion opposite than the at least one plurality of corrugations; and

a second drain groove, wherein a first end of the second drain groove is connected with the indented rim and a second end of the second drain groove is connected with at least one corrugation of the second plurality of corrugations;

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through each drain groove through its respective at least one corrugation through the formed opening into the container.

10. The lid of claim 4, further comprising a flange extending from the lower edge of the skirt away from the container on the tear-back portion to provide a gripping surface for a user to grasp and pull in order to tear open the tear-back portion.

11. The lid of claim 10, further comprising a pair of cuts formed in the skirt on both sides of the flange.

12. The lid of claim 11, wherein the pair of cuts are each at least one of notches and score lines.

13. The lid of claim 4, further comprising a second recess formed in the top wall radially inward from the first recess, wherein the second recess is capable of receiving the mounting portion when the tear-back portion is in the open position.

14. A lid for use on a drinking container, wherein the lid is capable of being releasably, sealably engaged with a top end of the container, comprising:

a top wall;

a mounting portion surrounding a periphery of the top wall, wherein the mounting portion is capable of releasably, sealably engaging the container and wherein the mounting portion includes a downwardly extending annular skirt;

a tear-back portion formed of a portion of the top wall and of the mounting portion, wherein the tear-back portion extends from a lower edge of the annular skirt to a hinge and has side edges, wherein the tear-back portion includes a raised protrusion extending upward from its top surface, wherein the raised protrusion has at least two opposite side walls, and wherein each of these side walls includes a first latching member; and

a first recess positioned in the top wall radially inward from the tear-back portion, wherein the first recess has at least two opposing side walls, and wherein each of these side walls includes a second latching member;

wherein the tear-back portion is capable of being torn along its side edges to pivot about the hinge to open the tear-back portion to form an opening in the lid through which a user may drink; and

wherein the tear-back portion is capable of being latched in the open position by inserting the raised protrusion within the first recess so that the first latching members are pushed past the second latching members to engage the second latching members.

15. The lid of claim 14, wherein the raised protrusion includes a flexural region.

16. The lid of claim 15, wherein the flexural region is provided by an indentation formed in the raised protrusion.

17. The lid of claim 14, further comprising:
an indented rim, wherein the top wall includes the indented rim radially inward of the mounting portion and formed around at least a portion of a circumference of the lid; and
at least one drain groove;
wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through the drain groove through the formed opening into the container.

18. The lid of claim 14, further comprising:

at least one plurality of corrugations formed in the top wall spaced from at least one side of the raised protrusion;

an indented rim, wherein the top wall includes the indented rim radially inward of the mounting portion and formed around at least a portion of a circumference of the lid; and

at least one drain groove, wherein a first end of the drain groove is connected with the indented rim and a second end of the drain groove is connected with at least one corrugation of the at least one plurality of corrugations;

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through the drain groove through the at least one corrugation through the formed opening into the container.

19. The lid of claim 18, further comprising:

a second plurality of corrugations formed in the top wall, wherein the second plurality of corrugations is spaced from a side of the raised protrusion opposite than the at least one plurality of corrugations; and

a second drain groove, wherein a first end of the second drain groove is connected with the indented rim and a second end of the second drain groove is connected with at least one corrugation of the second plurality of corrugations;

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through each drain groove through its respective at least one corrugation through the formed opening into the container.

20. The lid of claim 14, further comprising a flange extending from the lower edge of the skirt away from the container on the tear-back portion to provide a gripping surface for a user to grasp and pull in order to tear open the tear-back portion.

21. The lid of claim 20, further comprising a pair of cuts formed in the skirt on both sides of the flange.

22. The lid of claim 21, wherein the pair of cuts are each at least one of notches and score lines.

23. The lid of claim 14, further comprising a second recess formed in the top wall radially inward from the first recess, wherein the second recess is capable of receiving the mounting portion when the tear-back portion is in the open position.

24. A lid for use on a drinking container, wherein the lid is capable of being releasably, sealably engaged with a top end of the container, comprising:

a top wall;

an annular mounting portion surrounding a periphery of the top wall for sealably engaging the beverage container, the mounting portion including a downwardly extending annular skirt;

a tear-back portion extending from a lower edge of the annular skirt to a hinge formed in a medial portion of the lid;

at least one plurality of corrugations formed in the top wall spaced from at least one side of the raised protrusion;

a raised protrusion extending from an upper surface of the tear-back portion, wherein at least two opposite side walls of the raised protrusion each includes a first latching member;

a first recess formed in the top wall radially inward from the hinge, wherein at least two opposing side walls of the first recess each includes a second latching member;

wherein the tear-back portion may be displaced from the lid and pivoted about the hinge to form an opening in the lid, wherein the tear-back portion may be displaced until the raised protrusion is received within the first recess; and

wherein the first latching members are pushed past the second latching members to engage the second latching members to retain the tear-back portion of the lid in an open position.

25. The lid of claim 24, wherein the raised protrusion includes a flexural region.

26. The lid of claim 25, wherein the flexural region is provided by an indentation formed in the raised protrusion.

27. The lid of claim 24, further comprising:

an indented rim, wherein the top wall includes the indented rim radially inward of the mounting portion and formed around at least a portion of a circumference of the lid; and

at least one drain groove;

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through the at least one drain groove through the formed opening into the container.

28. The lid of claim 24, further comprising:

an indented rim, wherein the top wall includes the indented rim radially inward from the mounting portion and formed around at least a portion of a circumference of the lid; and

at least one drain groove, wherein a first end of the drain groove is connected with the indented rim and the second end of the drain groove is connected with at least one corrugation of the at least one plurality of corrugations;

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through the drain groove through the at least one corrugation through the formed opening into the container.

29. The lid of claim 24, further comprising:

a second plurality of corrugations formed in the top wall, wherein the second plurality of corrugations is spaced from a side of the raised protrusion opposite than the at least one plurality of corrugations;

an indented rim, wherein the top wall includes the indented rim radially inward from the mounting portion and formed around at least a portion of a circumference of the lid; and

a pair of drain grooves, wherein a first end of each drain groove is connected with the indented rim and a second end of each drain groove is connected with at least one corrugation of each plurality of corrugations;

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through each drain groove through its respective at least one corrugation through the formed opening into the container.

30. The lid of claim 24, further comprising a flange extending from the lower edge of the skirt away from the container on the tear-back portion to provide a gripping surface for a user to grasp and pull in order to tear open the tear-back portion.

31. The lid of claim 30, further comprising a pair of cuts formed in the skirt on both sides of the flange.

32. The lid of claim 31, wherein the pair of cuts are each at least one of notches and score lines.

33. The lid of claim 24, further comprising a second recess formed in the top wall radially inward from the first recess, wherein the second recess is capable of receiving the mounting portion when the tear-back portion is in the open position.

34. A lid for use on a drinking container, wherein the lid is capable of being releasably, sealably engaged with a top end of the container, comprising:

a top wall;

an annular mounting portion surrounding a periphery of the top wall for sealably engaging the beverage container, the mounting portion including a downwardly extending annular skirt;

an indented rim, wherein the top wall includes the indented rim radially inward from the mounting portion and formed around at least a portion of a circumference of the lid;

a tear-back portion extending from a lower edge of the annular skirt to a hinge formed in a medial portion of the lid, wherein the tear-back portion may be displaced from the lid and pivoted about the hinge to form an opening in the lid; and

at least one drain groove;

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through the drain groove through the formed opening into the container.

35. The lid of claim 34, further comprising:

at least one plurality of corrugations formed in the top wall spaced from at least one side of the raised protrusion; and

wherein a first end of the at least one drain groove is connected with the indented rim and a second end of the at least one drain groove is connected with at least one corrugation of the at least one plurality of corrugations; and

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through the at least one drain groove through the at least one corrugation through the formed opening into the container.

36. The lid of claim 35, further comprising:

a second plurality of corrugations formed in the top wall, wherein the second plurality of corrugations is spaced from a side of the raised protrusion opposite than the at least one plurality of corrugations;

a second drain groove;

wherein a first end of the second drain groove is connected with the indented rim and a second end of the second drain groove is connected with at least one corrugation of the second plurality of corrugations; and

wherein liquid is capable of draining from the indented rim through each drain groove through its respective at least one corrugation through the formed opening into the container.

37. A method of retaining a tear-back portion of a lid in an open position, wherein the lid is capable of being releasably, sealably engaged with a top end of the container, wherein the lid includes a tear-back portion capable of pivoting about a hinge formed in a medial portion of the lid; a raised protrusion extending from an upper surface of the tear-back portion, wherein at least two opposite side walls of the raised protrusion each includes a first latching member; and a first recess formed in a top wall of the lid radially inward from the hinge, wherein at least two opposing side walls of the first recess each includes a second latching member; comprising:

tearing the tear-back portion along side edges of the tear-back portion to pivot the tear-back portion about the hinge to open the tear-back portion to form an opening in the lid;

inserting the raised protrusion within the first recess; and

retaining the tear-back portion of the lid in the open position by pushing the first latching members past the second latching members to engage the second latching members.

38. A method of draining liquid from an indented rim of a lid into a container, wherein the lid is capable of being releasably, sealably engaged with a top end of the container, wherein the lid includes a top wall; an annular mounting portion surrounding a periphery of the top wall for sealably engaging the beverage container; the indented rim, wherein the top wall includes the indented rim radially inward from the mounting portion and formed around at least a portion of a circumference of the lid; a tear-back portion, wherein the tear-back portion may be

displaced from the lid to form an opening in the lid; and at least one drain groove;
comprising:

draining the liquid from the indented rim through the at least one drain groove through the formed opening into the container.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein the lid includes a second drain groove, further comprising draining the liquid from the indented rim through at least one of the drain grooves.